



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE FRED CAMILLO
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RANKING MEMBER
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MEMBER
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Testimony

In Support of Proposed H.B. No. 5248 An Act Increasing Fines For Distracted Driving

*Transportation Committee
February 4, 2013*

Dear Chairman Maynard, Chairman Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and members of the Transportation Committee:

I am writing in support of H.B. No. 5248. Please excuse me for not being able to testify in person today. I am home resting from a medical procedure so that I can join you all again very soon.

An Act Increasing Fines For Distracted Driving is something that expands upon what we have recently passed here in the General Assembly. While I feel that this proposed legislation could be even tougher, I do believe that increasing the fine for a first violation to \$150, a second to \$300, and a third to \$500 is a productive step toward sending a clear message that distracted driving is an offense that is even more dangerous than driving while intoxicated as at least the latter still allows the driver to look at the road. The seconds that it takes to look away from the road can be, and often is, deadly. A recent incident in Fairfield County once again proved this to be true. Speaking with a loved one of the victim of a distracted driver is all one would ever need to do to realize that when we all get into a motor vehicle, the first thing we need to do is turn off the phone.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this proposed bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Camillo".

Fred Camillo
151st District